



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

22 FEBRUARY 2023

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Azusa — Agents Make Massive Illegal Arms Seizure in Southern California Raid

(U) On 21 February, California State's Attorney General Bonta advised of a raid that occurred in late January in Azusa, that resulted in a large seizure of illegally owned guns and ammunition from the home of a man barred from owning weapons due to a mental-health based prohibition. Agents from the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Firearms entered the residence and found four machine guns, seven assault weapons, a short-barreled rifle, four suppressors/silencers, six handguns, one shotgun, four rifles, 54 lower receivers/frames, 41 standard capacity magazines, 87 large-capacity magazines, and approximately 35,000 rounds of miscellaneous ammunition. The suspect is charged with multiple felonies and arraignment was 17 February in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [CBS News](#)

(U) San Diego — 48 Arrested, 41 Survivors including 8 Children in Human Trafficking Investigation

(U) A monthlong investigation into human trafficking and sexual exploitation in San Diego and National City led to 48 arrests and the identification of 41 victims and survivors, including eight children. Two firearms, including a ghost gun, were recovered during the raids as well. The investigation targeted areas known for sexual exploitation and officers went after sex buyers by posing as individuals offering sex for sale. Those arrested were referred to the county District Attorney's Office, the San Diego City Attorney's Office and the US Attorney's Office for possible criminal prosecution.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [SD Tribune](#)

NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia — US Military Investigating Leak of E-mails from Pentagon Server

(U) Washington — The US military's Special Operations Command (SOCOM) is investigating a report from a cybersecurity researcher that the command was leaking unclassified e-mail data on the internet. The data leak was discovered by independent cybersecurity researcher Anurag Sen. Samples of the data Sen shared with news media dated back years and included standard information about US military contracts and requests by Department of Defense employees to have their paperwork processed. The leaked Department of Defense e-mail data spanned three terabytes, the equivalent of dozens of standard smartphones' storage. It is confirmed that no one has hacked SOCOM information systems.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [CNN News](#)

(U) New York — Former Mexican Public Security Secretary Convicted

(U) Brooklyn — Mexico's former Secretary of Public Security Genaro García Luna, who served as the country's equivalent of the FBI Director from 2006 to 2012, was found guilty in federal court in New York on Tuesday of taking bribes from drug cartels he had sworn to combat. Luna is convicted by a federal jury on five-counts of engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise. The counts included international cocaine distribution conspiracy, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine,

conspiracy to import cocaine, and making false statements. He is the highest-ranking current/former Mexican official ever tried in the US. He faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 20-years in prison and a maximum of life behind bars.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [CNN News](#)

(U) Tennessee — Two men arrested in Whitehaven Mass Shooting

(U) Memphis — Two men were arrested in connection with separate shootings on 19 February that left one person dead and ten injured in Whitehaven. Julius Freeman was arrested and charged with facilitation second-degree murder, five counts of criminal attempted second-degree murder, and five counts of possession of a firearm to commit a dangerous felony, according to court records. Ladarius Marion, the second man arrested in the shooting was charged with second-degree murder, five counts of attempted second-degree murder, and employment of a weapon during a dangerous felony. Freeman went to Ridgeway Police Station and admitted to handing the rifle to the shooter and driving the shooter away from the scene. Both are due in court on 21 February.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [FOX 13 News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Australia — A Network of Spies Removed from Australia

(U) Sydney — Australia Intelligence Chief Mike Burgess reports after an intense and sustained campaign, Australia busted a network of spies operating in the country for years. The undercover operatives appeared to be highly trained, and the group would study and potentially seduce targets including judges, journalists, and veterans. Burgess did not identify any countries behind the network. However, the Australian Security and Intelligence Organization (ASIO) thwarted plots from two different countries to physically harm Australian residents, a week after the government revealed that an Iranian plot targeting a dissident in Australia had been disrupted.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [BBC News](#)

(U) Burkina Faso — Two Jihadist Attacks in Burkina Killed Nearly 70 Troops

(U) Oudalan — On 21 February suspected jihadists killed at least 15 soldiers in northern Burkina Faso. Three days earlier 51 soldiers and 160 jihadists were killed in an ambush also in Oudalan province. Jihadist insurgents in Mali began launching cross-border incursions more than seven-years ago. The country's traditional ally, France is pulling out its special force's units based near the capital Ouagadougou.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [MSN](#)

(U) Germany — Germany Expels Two Iranian Diplomats

(U) Berlin — Germany will expel two Iranian diplomats over the death sentence imposed in Iran against one of its citizens. Authorities in Iran announced 21 February that Jamshid Sharmahd, an Iranian-German national and US resident, sentenced to death after being convicted of terrorist activities. The Iranian regime accused Sharmahd, of leading an armed pro-monarchist group and being involved in an April 2008 attack on a mosque in the city of Shiraz that killed 14 people. His family claims he was merely the spokesman for the opposition group and denies he was involved in any attacks. German Foreign Minister Baerbock demands that he has an appeal in a fair and constitutional process and for the death sentence to be overturned.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [AP News](#)

(U) Somalia — Al-Shabaab Attack on Mogadishu Home Treating Wounded Mawisley soldiers

(U) Mogadishu — On 21 February, an unspecified number of al-Shabaab fighters attacked a residence, reportedly owned by a senior Somali military officer, in Mogadishu's Abdicasis district. The residence housed wounded members of the Ma'awisley clan militia group recently injured in operations against al-Shabaab in Hiiraan Region, Somalia. The residence is located in an area known to house high-ranking government officials, and the attack has raised questions concerning how al-Shabaab fighters were able to breach the heavy security in the district. The Somali Government has not released any information on casualties.

SOURCE: 21 February 2023, [HALQABSI News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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